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HONG KONG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1947.

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ICE-FLOES IN NORTH SEA Threatening Britain's Coal Ships And Fishing Fleet Worst Of Fuel Crisis Over

London, Feb. 19.
North Sea ice floes are today menacing Britain's fishing fleets and coal ships battling down the stormy East coast with fuel urgently needed to build up power station and industrial stocks in London.

Drifting westward at about five miles a day, the floes carried away buoys marking wrecks and shipping channels through mined areas and were at noon reported to be about 50 miles off Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

It is expected he will tell the House immediately after "question time" that permission will be given for industries power-plant for the last few days to resume work in the near future, possibly tomorrow.

Domestic consumers will be the last to have current restored and cold and cheerless homes will remain blacked out for five hours daily for an indefinite period to come.

Troops At Work
Ten thousand troops are working throughout the country clearing snow from roads and railroads and by tonight 3,300 troops and 1,350 Army trucks were expected to be hauling coal.

Only four colliers arrived in London today from northeast ports where a whole fleet of coal ships are berthed and loading today.

The ice field drifting southward and westward in the North Sea is reported to be 40 miles off Great Yarmouth, moving at about five miles a day.

Fishermen reported a brittle cold which snapped fish in half before they could be stowed.

Luton opened a 20th-century community project—a coke-heated "warming-centre" to which old folk bring their own food and sit.—United Press.

18 Days Sans Sun

London, Feb. 19.
London experienced its eighteenth consecutive day without sunshine today for the longest sunless period in English records.

Officials at Kew Observatory said the previous record mark of 17 straight days was established in December, 1890, ten years after the start of such statistics.

Air Ministry weather experts said no relief for the 28 degree Fahrenheit weather was in sight and chances of any sunshine were slim.

Kew officials admitted a few rays of sunshine had penetrated the heavy, low-lying clouds.

Russia's Plan For Atomic Control

Lake Success, N.Y., Feb. 18.
Russian amendments and additions to the report of the Atomic Energy Commission were presented to the United Nations Security Council here tonight.

The amendments presented by M. Gromyko gave practical expression to Russia's atomic policy as previously outlined in Gromyko's speeches.

Their main lines were:
1. Drafting and signing of a convention forbidding production of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy for military purposes.
2. Destruction of all existing stocks of atomic weapons.

3. Establishment of an international system of atomic energy control.
The Russian amendments insisted that any international atomic control body should be within the framework of the Security Council and thus subject to the big powers' veto.

NANKING SALE PROGRAMME

Nanking, Feb. 19.
The Minister of Information said today that the Executive Yuan is preparing a list of Government enterprises which will be sold to private capital. He said the Government does not contemplate the sale of either the Chinese domestic oilfield or the China Merchants shipping company.—Associated Press.

Merry Game In Black Markets

London, Feb. 18.
Black marketeering by British soldiers in Germany cost British taxpayers £20,000,000, the War Secretary, Mr. Bellenger, told the House of Commons today when introducing a £50,000,000 supplementary Army estimate.

Mr. Bellenger said nearly half the requested amount was required to cover losses resulting from the Treasury being flooded with marks and shillings from servicemen who dealt on the black market and then made do with the Post Office savings plan.

Mr. Bellenger offered a qualified defence of "underpaid troops" and at one point referred to the matter as a "merry game".—United Press.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Hugh Dalton, announced that Britain was spending £50,000,000 in non-sterling currencies.

Mr. Dalton said the American loan, even if it was not increased, would last beyond December 31, 1947, at the present rate of expenditure.—United Press.

THE WEATHER

A strong anticyclone covers China, a large and the adjacent seas. A depression is forming over the Gulf of Feichia. A depression over Hokkaido is moving eastward. Pressure is relatively low over the equatorial regions.

Today's Forecast: Moderate N and NE winds, strong NE wind off Japan; cloudy generally, contributing rain.

Yesterday's Weather:
Maximum: 52.2 deg. Fah.
Minimum: 43.3 deg. Fah.
Sunshine: Nil.
Rainfall: Nil. Total since Jan. 1: 79.1 mm. as against an average of 62.6 mm.

Headwinds at:
10 a.m.: 1027.7 104.2 mb.
Rel. Humidity: 83 80 %
New Moon: 15 45 deg. P.
Wind direction: N 45 E N by W
Wind Force: 0 4 knots

over land in shortly before noon but said they were not strong enough to record on their instruments.—United Press.

China Request Brings Blunt Unrra Comment

Shanghai, Feb. 19.
UNRRA officials and employees in Shanghai contacted today were bitter about the suggestion that the remaining China rehabilitation programme be scuttled in a proposed sale of food and cotton in the black market to raise funds to bolster China's wobbly economy.

None would permit himself to be quoted by name but one summed up the sentiments expressed by many in the comment: "This proposal at least has the merit of honesty. From all indications the Generalissimo cannot beat UNRRA ploughshares into swords quickly and is now asking for supplies which directly serve that purpose."

Personnel of the United States Consulate today confirmed they were aware of the Chinese request, but said they were not familiar with the details.

They stressed that such a plan would be full of dangers unless carefully explored to determine what agricultural and industrial rehabilitation programmes already underway could or should be salvaged.

One of the arguments advanced for the black market sale of UNRRA goods is that it would free the Chinese Government of the necessity to continue providing funds for the Chinese-operated distributing agency.

Cheaper

If the goods were simply dumped in the market, it was explained, there would be no need for a distributing agency or any supervision.

Authoritative UNRRA sources suggested the reason China desired to scuttle the rehabilitation programme—previously asked for was inability to absorb such supplies as have already been received.

Large quantities of machinery and equipment are waiting and rusting in various parts of China right now," one UNRRA official said.

Another said that China had made much of claims that she had stepped up distribution since UNRRA shipments were choked off for a time last year, due to bad distribution. "What has actually happened is that supplies have been shunted out of Shanghai and other port cities to rot elsewhere," he said.

Conservatively, 45 per cent of all UNRRA supplies are now rotting and rusting in warehouses, godowns and open lots out of sight of Shanghai.

Severe Critic

Another UNRRA official declared: "Reports indicate the rehabilitation programme has been a complete failure. Scarcely any relief supplies, such as food, medicine and clothing, have actually gone to destitute people who require them. They have either been sold or held in storage against the day the UNRRA observers are withdrawn."—United Press.

"Alarming"

Washington, Feb. 19.
Well-informed sources close to UNRRA Director General Lovell Rooks said the proposal was regarded as "alarming" since it would divert most of the remaining UNRRA China programme to uses never intended by UNRRA Council resolutions and was even more objectionable in view of conservative estimates that at least 50 per cent of all funds available by the Chinese Government will be used to prosecute civil war against the Chinese Communists.

According to information available here, the proposal is to divert all agricultural and industrial rehabilitation funds to the purchase of cereal, grain and cotton which would be sold without restrictions in China's "open markets" which believe distrust sits at our table as the Chinese representative casting a veto on all other votes.—Router.

JAPANESE REPARATIONS

Conberra, Feb. 19.
Dr. Herbert Ewart, Minister for External Affairs, replying to a question in the House of Representatives, said: "At the proper time, when peace negotiations in relation to Japan are taking place, claims by Australian prisoners-of-war for reparations from Japan will be taken up."

"Firstly, these claims will be discussed with the United Kingdom, then with the Allied Governments. It is quite obvious that we must act jointly with other Allied Governments."—Router.

Post Gets Hot About Pepper

Shanghai, Feb. 19.
The American-owned "Evening Post" today commented editorially on the SCAP action in ordering the "New York Post" correspondent, Robert (Pepper) Martin, out of Japan, and said:

"SCAP's performance in this bit of public relations work is up to the highest totalitarian standards of the Nazis, Italians and Russians, and perhaps a little ahead of the Japanese."

"Just what Pepper did to inflame the tender skins of the SCAP authorities we have no idea, but judging from their underdemocratic reaction it cannot have been half enough."

Recounting the record, as a war correspondent, of Martin who was described as one of the ablest and best known correspondents in the Far East, the editorial was titled "Allied Totalitarianism" and said:

"Such a man deserves a great deal better treatment of every arm of the United States Government and such Allied organs as SCAP than to be given the bum's rush after denial of his rights as a correspondent."

Expressing the hope that the issue will be vigorously pushed, the "Post" said: "If Americanism is to prevail, there can be no doubt as to the answer, because its principle is grounded in the very constitution of the United States, that there must be freedom of the press."

freedom to report without fear or favour to the end that evils may be exposed and that merit may be seen for what it is."—United Press.

NEW CRISIS IN INDIA LOOMS Viceroy May Be Recalled

London, Feb. 19.
Authoritative sources said today that the British Government has decided to recall Lord Wavell from his post as Viceroy of India.

The decision was said to be the result of the new constitutional crisis in India. It will be announced in the House of Commons tomorrow by Prime Minister Attlee, the sources declared. They said Attlee's statement will be accompanied by the publication of a White Paper. The informants said tomorrow's pronouncement would be of "crucial importance."

In answer to a question, one column spread: "Cabinet struggling to head off civil war in India."

The newspaper's political correspondent declared that the Government "is considering grave developments in India" and "is directing its efforts to prevent a complete breakdown, which might end in civil war and the necessity of evacuating British citizens."

Other newspapers carried items from their political correspondents under such headlines as "New India crisis: Attlee to speak tomorrow."

British Position

The general trend of comment is summed up by the Daily Herald's correspondent, who said: "I understand that the Prime Minister will re-emphasise what he told the Indian leaders in London last December: There is no prospect of success for a Constituent Assembly except on the basis of agreed procedure."

"The British will not force such a constitution on unwilling parts of India."—Router.

Walking Out?

The "New York Times" from London reports today that the British Government is preparing to set a time limit for handing India back to the Indians once and for all, and suggests the transfer may occur within a year.—United Press.

Cabinet Straining?

London, Feb. 19.
The new crisis, which has flared up in India after the Congress Party's challenge to the Muslim League Ministers to quit the Cabinet because of the Muslim refusal to take part in the Constituent Assembly, made front page news in British newspapers.

The Daily Mirror, which usually prints only "human interest" stories on its front page, today carried a double

ON OTHER PAGES

Page Two: European Sgt. Accused.
Page Five: Bevin On Palestine.
Page Six: Arab Cuts Likely.
Page Eight: Albania Indicted.

Kesselring Admits Excesses

Venice, Feb. 19.
Field-Marshal Kesselring, Hitler's supreme commander in Italy during the Allied offensive, today described Mussolini's Government "of Neo-Fascists" as a "heavy burden" to the German High Command.

When his trial was resumed before a British military court today, Kesselring in a 10,000 word report written while he was a prisoner in Britain, said: "I was subordinate to the Duce and loyally complied with all his wishes."

"German tolerated 'for the sake of Italian friendship' much that happened—after Italy entered the war."

Kesselring's report spoke of a "terrifying increase of partisan activity" after Italy broke with Germany.

"With the surrender of Rome, the position became aggravated," he said.
"In face of unscrupulous partisan activity, the defence against it was bound to develop into complete destruction, but unfortunately our troops overstepped the limits."

Kesselring said that, well conducted, arrests of hostages would have obtained the needed for Germany.—Router.

Score Killed In U.S. Railway Disaster

Altoona, Pennsylvania, Feb. 19.
The Pennsylvania Railroad's "Red Arrow" near-ing the famed "Horseshoe Curve" in predawn darkness plunged over a 150-foot embankment carrying 25 persons to their death and injuring 124 others.

Many of the injured were reported "critical" in the Altoona Hospital and likely to die.

John Holland Arrested

London, Feb. 19.
A charge of aiding the Japanese during the war by broadcasting from Tokyo and Shanghai was opened at Bow Street Magistrates' Court against John James Holland, aged 36, described as a West Australian and former journalist.

Holland was arrested at Hull, Yorkshire, yesterday, while asleep in a bunk on the ship on which he was serving as a seaman.

The case was formally adjourned.—Router.

YAUMATI SHOTS

A police patrol, which surprised armed robbers engaged in operations at 302 Shanghai Street, Yau-mati, at about 10 p.m. last night, opened fire when the gang scattered. Two of the robbers threw away their pistols, but no one was hit and no arrests were made.

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TRAGIC END TO BOYS' QUARREL: JURY'S PLEA

Portuguese Youth Disowned

A Portuguese youth with two previous convictions, whose father not only refused to have anything further to do with him but was also prepared to give evidence of his bad character, was sentenced to three months' hard labour and recommended for banishment by Mr. Blair-Kerr at Kowloon yesterday.

The case which was originally heard before Mr. Lattimer on Saturday last, and remanded to enable the Police to communicate with the defendant's father, concerned one Victor Edward de Faria Neves, charged with larceny on the roof of 4 Chatham Road at 2.50 p.m. on Feb. 14 with intent to commit a felony.

Defendant said that he was up to the roof to write a letter to his father, whom he had not seen for some time, and that he was dependent on the charity of his mother.

S. I. Askew, prosecuting, informed the Court yesterday that the Police had communicated with the defendant's father, who refused to have anything to do with the youth. The father, said S. I. Askew, said that he had found his son several good positions which he had not been able to keep. Furthermore, said the prosecuting officer, the father expressed a willingness to appear in Court to give evidence of defendant's bad character.

Before sentence was passed, S. I. Askew revealed that accused was fined \$100 for delivering letters for prisoners when he was employed as a wander in Stanley Gai and was sentenced to three months' hard labour for obtaining money by false pretences.

Asked what he had to say in mitigation, accused pleaded for another chance to which His Worship replied: "How many chances do you want?"

Bantu Children Greet King

Simonstown, Feb. 19. Bantu children sang a welcome today to the British Royal Family when they arrived for a naval inspection at Simonstown, recalling the days of battles with pirates and cutting out of French privateers.

All along the route was lined with cheering crowds. The British fleet effected occupation in 1795, near close to the beach and the two Princesses had their first sight of the Indian Ocean under a blazing sun.

It was the Royal Family's first trip from Capetown.

A 15-year-old night school boy who has no parents and has been under the care of his aunt was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to nine strokes of the cane by Mr. Justice Williams, Paines Judge, at the Criminal Sessions yesterday.

The lad was alleged to have unlawfully killed a 14-year-old school mate with a pen knife during a fight as a result of an earlier argument over a game of match flicking.

The jury retired for 30 minutes to find the lad guilty unanimously. The jury very strongly recommended mercy in view of his age and in view of his opinion that he had no intention of killing his friend.

Described by his aunt as a good boy at home, the lad told the Court in the witness box that he and the deceased were students at the Man Pa Night School in Nanchang Street. Before lessons were started on the evening of the 12th, he had a quarrel with the deceased over a game of match flicking.

After school, on the pavement outside he was struck on his chest by the deceased. He then drew the pen knife from his pocket and held it with the blade open in his right hand and threatened the deceased who, however, pounced on him and struggled with him.

Let Him Go. The deceased, the lad added, realized that he was bleeding and let him go. On reaching his home, the lad continued, he saw blood on his right hand and thought he might have cut the deceased's hand. As he was frightened, he put the knife into a basket in the kitchen.

The boy said he had no intention of killing the deceased and asked His Lordship to deal with him leniently. According to the prosecution, conducted by Mr. A. Lonsdale, Crown Counsel, the deceased died of a stab wound just above his collar bone.

Wong Pak-cheung said that he was the father of the deceased boy. Arriving at 9 p.m. on Dec. 2 that evening, his son's school mate, Chan Kam-ming, came to his house to tell him of the incident.

As a result, he went to the school and saw his son, covered with blood, lying unconscious on the footpath under the verandah outside the school.

To Mr. Justice Williams, witness said his son was thinner than, but was about the same height as, accused.

Chiu Leung, detective, said at 9 p.m. on Dec. 2, he was sent to the school, and saw the deceased boy lying on the pavement.

Threat Alleged. Next day, witness said, he went to 179 Cheungshawan Road and took accused into custody. Accused took him to the kitchen and took a pen knife and a small towel from the bottom of a fuse basket.

A 16-year-old witness said that before the lessons started that night, he saw accused flicking a lighter match into the head of the deceased, who scolded him and said that he would beat him up after the school.

After school, witness went down and heard accused asking deceased: "Why don't you beat me up as usual?"

Witness said that deceased hit accused a blow on the chest and then they threw their arms around each other, struggling.

At the end of the struggle, he saw accused push deceased off and run away. He saw blood on deceased's neck and rushed forward to help him, but he collapsed.

He did not see accused take out the pen knife and stab the deceased.

Sentencing the lad, His Lordship said that he was satisfied that accused did not realise the serious consequences when he opened his knife to threaten his school mate.

Germans Jump The Jumper

Shanghai, Feb. 19. The Chinese military authorities in Nanking today joined in the search for seven missing German repatriates as zero hour approached for the departure of some 170 German nationals, aboard the "Marine Jumper".

The wanted Germans, who include the former chief editor of the official German news agency in Shanghai, Karl Laverentz, are believed to have slipped out to Nanking under false identification.

The "Marine Jumper" is scheduled to leave tomorrow morning for Bremerhaven.

PEIPING SWEEP. Nanking, Feb. 19. Two thousand persons were arrested in 1,689 cases of hoarding and profiteering discovered during a city-wide search in Peiping yesterday according to a report received here from Peiping Police Commissioner.

Tokyo Fire

Tokyo, Feb. 19. Black-market goods, mostly edibles, worth 20,000,000 yen were lost today as a fire destroyed a two-month-old market building near Shimadashi railway station.

The market is within a stone's throw of the Dai Ichih Hotel, housing GHQ officers and civilian workers.

The police estimated the building's loss at 10,000,000 yen. The fire is believed to have started from a short circuit of worn-out electric wiring.

United Press.

Hong Kong Invaded By Correspondents

Though few local citizens may have noticed it, the Colony is in process of being viewed from every conceivable angle by a round dozen of America's more prominent journalists and feature photographers.

The work is in its initial stages and some of those who grease and turn the Colony's wheels are now being initially called upon for an appointment when the most modern equipment designed to catch everything about them that is photogenic will be turned on and manipulated by hands that have hardly been unnerved even by Royalty.

Within eight weeks we are to be presented with a half-dozen illustrated feature articles on Hong Kong, on how it lives and what makes it tick. In short we will be subjected to a comprehensive survey. Our local guests will smile or strike dour postures at the world and we may learn how it is that we live and move and have our being.

So comprehensive is the descent that few of our most distorted walks will be left untrod. One venture afoot is to photograph a family on the Peak who are living in an empty house, without furniture. He who drinks rye where Scotch should be, the word may be subjected to a blinding flash of light like the wrath from above which will forever brand him as the typical local barfly who nukes possible an alien commercial infiltration.

Not In Vain. Many of us will be selected as typical of our background. It may be that someone will relate to a picture-hungry world through the medium of a photographic essay a whole day's existence from the moment when he first breaks bread, (or rice) in the morning till the moment late in the evening (taken with the aid of the most modern flash contrivance) when the last wood rolls along the green.

It seems meet and just that a populace which buys American periodicals at six and seven times the published price in dollars should be so honoured. It is more intriguing to discover, though, that we are newsworthy. Not in vain have been the voices of our many visitors attesting to our rapid rehabilitation and recovery, to the excellence of our shops and the fullness of our larders.

So, donning our Sunday best and our warmest welcoming smiles, we receive into our midst, either here now or speeding here by available transport, Karl Baehmeyer of "Newsweek", Horace Bristol, photographer for "Fortune", William P. Gray of "Time", Walter James of "Collier's", Mark Kaufman, "Life" photographer, John Luter of "Time" and "Life", now representing "Fortune", Leo Martin of the "Overseas News Agency", Margaret Parton of the "New York Herald Tribune", John Purcell of "Life", Francis Reardon of "World Report", Robert Shapiro of "Newsweek", and Hessel Tiltman of the "Daily Herald", here not to be outdone by the American press.

There are so many of them that the idea of forming a "Visiting Correspondents' Club" has already been mooted. Meanwhile, the visiting correspondents and photographers are replenishing wardrobes, sampling the romantic atmosphere of Chinese restaurants (they have already condemned Birds' Nest Soup as a local delicacy disagreeable to the American palate or digestion), and contributing something or other to local memory.

One of the boys is leaving his appendix here and another, having already contributed to the local pickpockets' association a gold Parker pen and pencil set.

China Breaks Off Negotiations

Manila, Feb. 19. Negotiations underway for more than seven months between the Chinese and Philippine Governments for a general treaty of friendship and trade have been suddenly suspended by the Chinese Legation on orders from Nanking, it was announced today, amid blunt charges of discriminatory action towards some 100,000 Chinese residents of the Philippines.

A note sent on February 18 by the Chinese Minister Chen Chi-ping to Elpidio Quirino, announcing the suspension read, in part:

"Negotiations have been going on for some time but time and again the Philippine Government changed and amended articles proposed by themselves and attempted to remove others which were agreed upon previously."

"During the negotiations, the Philippine Government has taken various measures discriminating in effect to Chinese residents. This does not conform with the spirit of amity. Under these conditions it is deemed inadvisable to continue the negotiations. It is hoped that the Philippine Government will take steps to improve present conditions and remove all obstacles in the path of Chinese-Philippine amity."—Associated Press.

RANGOON LABOUR TROUBLES

Rangoon, Feb. 19. Dock workers and other labourers who have been on strike for nearly three weeks will resume work tomorrow.

The civilian workers of various military establishments who have been on strike for nearly a fortnight have not called off their strike.

Rangoon banks and business houses, of which the clerical staff are strike-bound, still remained closed.

Civil supplies employees, numbering about 5,000 are going on strike tomorrow.—Reuter.

A SHOCK

Bangkok, Feb. 19. Viet Nam radio said today that the Viet Nam delegation in Paris requested the Premier, Paul Ramadier, for an interview to convey a proposition for settlement of the Indo-China conflict but the French replied by withdrawing recognition of the delegation.—United Press.

Tokyo, Feb. 19. Sixty-one Japanese war crimes suspects left today for Kure to board the British troopship Dilwara to stand trial in Malaya, Burma and the Dutch East Indies for torturing and executing Allied prisoners of war.—United Press.

Pearl Harbour, Feb. 19. The Coast Guard reports that the converted LCM "Silver" has docked safely at the "French Frigate" wharf, after radioing that it was lost and almost out of fuel.—Associated Press.

HONGKONG TRAMWAYS LIMITED NOTICE

On and from Saturday, 1st March, 1947, the tramway service West of Western Market will be resumed to WHITTY STREET as under:

From	To	First Car	Last Car
Causeway Bay — Whitty Street		6.01 a.m.	11.28 p.m.
Happy Valley — Whitty Street		6.00 a.m.	11.28 p.m.
Whitty Street — Causeway Bay		6.31 a.m.	11.59 p.m.
Whitty Street — Happy Valley		6.30 a.m.	11.58 p.m.

Also from the same date the special 12-minute service in the Godown-Control area will be resumed between KENNEDY TOWN MARKET and WHITTY STREET with stopping places at Sand Street and Queen's Road West ONLY:

From	To	First Car	Last Car
Whitty Street — Kennedy Town		6.48 a.m.	9.48 p.m.
Kennedy Town — Whitty Street		6.54 a.m.	9.55 p.m.

PASSENGERS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO JOIN OR LEAVE THE CARS WITHIN THE ROAD BARRIERS ON THIS ROUTE.

FARES

1st class 20 cents
3rd class 10 cents
Tickets are not transferable.

Available on the car of issue only.

MARKET PRODUCE WILL NOT BE CARRIED.

Public attention is called to an amendment of Rules for regulating travelling in the trams of the Company by powers under Section 36 of The Tramway Ordinance No. 10 of 1932, published by the Hong Kong Government Gazette Extraordinary No. 8 of 11th February, 1947, as follows:

Rule 31. Any person offending against or committing a breach of any of those rules shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred dollars.

By notification in the same Gazette The Governor-in-Council has ordered that the foregoing amendment shall come into operation effective as from the 12th day of February, 1947.

W. F. SIMMONS
Deputy General Manager
Acting General Manager

Hongkong, 18th February, 1947.

AUCTION SALE

BY ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR OF DISPOSALS FAR EASTERN AREA (M. O. S.) Messrs. Lammert Brothers of Pedder Building, Hong Kong, have received instructions to sell by Auction at their Sales Rooms, Pedder Building — Basement, at 9.30 a.m. on Saturday, the 22nd day of February 1947:—

A LARGE QUANTITY OF MISCELLANEOUS STORES AND LORRIES comprising:—

LOCATED AT H. M. NAVAL YARD, KOWLOON. Worthington & Simpson Portable Fire and Bilge Pumps with Gear, Empty Drums and Metal Polish.

LOCATED AT ROYAL ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS. VEHICLE DEPOT, SHAM SHUIPO. "International" and "Bedford" 3-ton Lorries.

LOCATED AT H. M. NAVAL DOCKYARD, HONG KONG. Electric Cable, Lanterns, Eisco Life Lights, Camp Beds, Tables, Telephones, Searchlight Projectors, Old Batteries, Films, Paper, Bromide, Plates, Scrap Cork and Cardage.

LOCATED AT 303 EQUIPMENT PARK, RAF, KOWLOON. Developer M. G. Infra Red, Pan-Alm, Assorted Camouflage Nets and Scraps.

LOCATED AT 387 COY. R.A.S.C. WORKSHOPS, KOWLOON. Engineer's Portable Borer.

LOCATED AT E.S.B.D. CHATHAM ROAD, KOWLOON. Bitumen, Hand Scythes, Shovel, Hoes, Rakes, Pick Heads, Old Corrugated Iron Sheets, Scrap Iron, Girders, Steel, Scrap Steel, Girders, Blower Fan, S.W. R. Sling, Cargo Nets, Hooks, Shear Legs, Runner, Blocks, Shackles, Dog Spikes, Nail Carriers, Clamps, Ramps, Nail Spike, Dogs, Timber, Wicker Baskets, Old Files, Etc.

LOCATED AT IE 3 MOBILE WORKSHOP IEME, ARSENAL YARD, QUEEN'S ROAD, HONG KONG. Scrap Ferrous Metal.

Permits to view, Catalogues, Special Conditions of Sales, etc.—may be obtained from Messrs. Lammert Brothers.

Inspection of the above Stores and Lorries can be made between the hours of 10 a.m. and noon and between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Thursday and Friday the 20th and 21st February 1947.

WALTER M. WEINBERGER, Chairman, British Stores Disposal Board (Hong Kong)

Service Auction Rooms

Auctioneers, Surveyors, etc. Basement, French Bank Bldg., A.E.B. de Sousa, Auctioneer. Telephone 51887.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned has received instructions from the Custodian of Property to sell by Public Auction

on THURSDAY, THE 20th FEBRUARY, 1947, commencing at 10 a.m.

at THE SERVICE AUCTION ROOMS, FRENCH BANK BUILDING, BASEMENT.

175 LOTS OF MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES, comprising:—

STORED AT SUI BUN FOR No. 1-B GODOWN, WEST POINT.

Chests of Drawers, Cabinets, Desks, Wardrobes, Tallboys, Cupboards, Sideboards, Counters, Dining Tables, Kitchen Tables, Bedside Tables, Occasional Tables, Dressing Tables, Teapots, Armchairs, Settees, Chesterfields, Chairs, Benches, Beds (Wooden and Iron), Couches, Mattresses, Frames, Vases, Pictures, Flower Pots, Figures, Etc., Etc.

STORED AT CAROLINE HILL GARAGE, CAROLINE HILL, CAUSEWAY BAY.

Studebaker Lorry.

STORED AT SERVICE AUCTION ROOMS, FRENCH BANK BUILDING, BASEMENT.

Golf Bag with 11 Clubs and 5 Golf Balls.

The abovementioned articles will be open for inspection at their respective godowns on 18th and 19th February, 1947, between 10 a.m. and noon, and between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Inspection Permits will be issued by the Undersigned at the Service Auction Rooms.

The Auction is subject to the Conditions of Sale published in the Hong Kong (British Military Administration) Gazette, Volume 2, No. 12, of 9th March, 1946.

A. E. B. DE SOUSA, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 18th Feb. 1947.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned has received instructions from the Custodian of Property to sell by Public Auction

on FRIDAY, 21st FEB. 1947, commencing at 10 a.m.

at THE SERVICE AUCTION ROOMS, FRENCH BANK BUILDING, BASEMENT.

164 LOTS OF MISCELLANEOUS FURNITURE, comprising:—

Chests of Drawers; Cupboards; Wardrobes; Sideboards; Writing Desks; Typewriting Desks; Cabinets; Filing Cabinets; Glass Cabinet for Surgical Instruments; Counters; Iron Boxes; Wooden and Iron Beds; Horsehair and Box Spring Mattresses; Settees; Armchairs; Chesterfields; Vienna Chairs; Chairs; Stools; Dining Tables; Dressing Tables; Occasional Tables; Bedside Tables; Carpets; Rugs; Mats and Door-mats; Hall Stands; Towel Racks; Mirrors; Rattan and Blackwood Furniture; 1 "Moutrie" Piano; 1 "R.C.A." Radiogram; Etc., Etc.

The abovementioned articles will be open for inspection at the Custodian K.I. Godown, Ma Tau Wei Road, Kowloon, on 19th and 20th February, 1947, between 10 a.m. and noon, and between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Inspection Permits will be issued by the Undersigned at his Auction Rooms.

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HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Seventeenth Ordinary Yearly Meeting of HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED, will be held on Wednesday, the 26th day of February, 1947, at noon, in the Board Room of the Company, FOURTH FLOOR, HONG KONG, for the purpose of passing a resolution ratifying the acts and appointments of the Board of Directors since the last Ordinary Yearly Meeting, receiving Statements of Accounts for the financial year ended 31st December, 1946, and the four years ended 31st December, 1945, and electing five Directors and the Auditors.

Dated this 17th day of February, 1947.

By order of the Board,

S. GROVE, Secretary.

14 Des-Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong.

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"Can you beat it? Only a minute ago I got a card out of there saying 'today was propitious for business undertakings!'"

With Byrd In The Antarctic

Little America, Feb. 18. Admiral Byrd said if there had been any mountains within 100 miles of the Pole in any direction they could have seen it. However, they saw no break in the unending flat expanse of the Polar ice cap that comprises the world's largest and highest plateau.

"Hundreds of Miles. We could see for hundreds of miles to the left as we crossed the Pole and 100 miles beyond the Pole and 100 miles to the right of the Pole," Admiral Byrd said.

Because every direction at the South Pole is north, Admiral Byrd gave the directions as "right and left" from his planes, alternating southward and northward course across the Pole rather than using compass directions.

Admiral Byrd's two planes flew within sight of each other for the entire trip, and circled the Pole together. Admiral Byrd's "Mus thier" and the Byrd Expedition to make 10 flights over hundreds of unknown glaciers and mountains, all of which were carefully photographed, leading Admiral Byrd to say: "We saw more in a few minutes than previous explorers learned in years of struggles."

Antarctic Ice-cap. Eleven men, flying in two navy transports, roared across the Pole at exactly 5 a.m. Little America time (11 a.m. EST) on February 14 at an altitude of 15,000 feet above sea level—only 2,500 feet above the surface which forms the core of the great Antarctic ice-cap.

The two planes which crossed the Pole were the last of 10 to leave Little America in a virtual parade of the unknown which began on the morning of Valentine's Day. Never before in history have frontiers of the unknown shrunk so rapidly.

Ten planes flying in pairs discovered and wrote into maps two previously unknown mountain masses of major dimensions. The total effect of their effort is still being assessed and will be announced later.

A press conference after his return, Admiral Byrd commented: "Mountains that do not show on the map are everywhere out there."

Two polar planes flew south to Wade Glacier, then up the glacier to the South Polar plateau and on to the Pole. Returning they descended from the Polar plateau to a point between the Byrd and Peary glaciers. It was a cold that the automatic pilots failed to work and the pilots and co-pilots were forced to steer the planes manually all the way.

Got To Get High. At the press conference Admiral Byrd also said: "We had to violate flying rules to make that altitude. 15,000 feet, but it was necessary. If we had stayed within the prescribed altitude none of our planes ever would have gotten over the mountains into unexplored territory on any flight. You cannot get through those mountains and you have got to get high to get over them."

Admiral Byrd wrote a personal message to Admiral of the Fleet Chester Nimitz at the Pole. He wrote: "I was so glad to print the message in half-inch high black letters on the back of a folded map and finish the message about a foot and a half long."

Admiral Byrd said it was the first time in history anyone had seen any appreciable distance beyond the Pole. He went about 10 miles past it in his 1929 flight. He said: "I believe that a limitless plateau extends beyond the Pole—the biggest and highest in the world."

After flying up the length of Wade Glacier to the summit of the Polar plateau, the two R4Ds made their 19th meridian and rode straight down to the Pole. After circling the Pole they found the distance 11 miles past the Pole, 10 miles to the

Wingate Memorial. Jerusalem, Feb. 18. The first of 10,000 trees in a plantation on Mount Gilboa to be provided in memory of the late Major-General Charles Orde Wingate, were planted this morning in the presence of Mrs. Golda Meyer, the political head of the Jewish Agency.

The memorial forest is being provided under a scheme organized and financed by the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund.

Dr. Chaim Weizmann, late President of the World Zionist Congress, sent a message describing Wingate as "one of the brightest men among the nations of the world."

Wingate first won the hearts of the Jews when he spoke to them in Hebrew in Palestine before the war.

He won the DSO leading Jewish guerrilla forces against Arab terrorists. He was killed in an air crash in 1944 while commanding his Chindit forces in Burma.—Reuter.

INCONCLUSIVE DEBATE

London, Feb. 18.

The Foreign Ministers' special deputies for Germany at the meeting here this evening had a long and inconclusive general discussion on memoranda produced by all four deputies on procedure

for preparing the German treaty and in particular the creation of committees on which the smaller allies would be represented.

Today's meeting brought the British, United States and French viewpoints nearer together, but left the Soviet desire for standing firmly by his view that the Big Four Foreign Ministers must keep all responsibility in their own hands.—Reuter.

Importance Of Rent Control

Almost every day the London Press carries reports of sensational rent reductions ordered by the local Rent Tribunals. The cases are concerned with furnished rooms, which until recently have not been subject to control.

They represented, therefore, a margin of uncontrolled inflation within the framework of a skillfully regulated cost-of-living policy.

Instructive Curve

The latest cost of living figures for Britain show an increase of 31 per cent over 1938 for the main index of 28 per cent.

By DR. GEORGE GRETTON

quite instructive: between the outbreak of World War II and 1941, the cost of living index rose fairly sharply by 28 per cent. Wage rates were not quite keeping pace, and their rise was about 22 per cent.

Then, the rationing and price control system (the latter supported by food subsidies) came into full operation, and from 1941 almost to the end of the European war the cost of living index rose by less than 2 per cent. There was a rise of 4 points (from 130 to 134) during the summer of 1946, but then the present Government clamped down on the tendency towards a rise in food prices, and since then the index has remained mostly at 131, with occasional temporary rises to 132.

Four Items

The four elements which make up the working class cost of living index are food, clothing, light and fuel and rent. If these, clothing has risen most—by 67 per cent above 1938, fuel and light next—53 per cent; food has risen by about 20 per cent; and rent has risen least of all. During the summer last index rose from 103 to 104 (1939 equal 100).

Wages, incidentally, have long since caught up on cost of living and gone ahead; the present average for all industries is 64 per cent above September 1939. This pegging of cost of living does mean that there is a "ceiling" on wages. It is only the absolute necessities which are pegged, and it does not mean that everyone can find accommodation at 4 per cent above pre-war prices.

Demand For Accommodation

In London particularly many thousands of people lack adequate accommodation. Owing to war damage and the cessation of building, the 1½ million people who have returned to the London area since the end of the war have created a feverish demand for flats and houses.

This has caused a serious inflation of prices outside the area of control. In the first place, only houses with a rateable value of £100 a year or under—that is, houses with a pre-war price of about £3,000 (freehold or mortgage) are included in the control.

Thus, there is a small margin of property open to unlimited bidding—the rich are not protected against grasping landlords.

Secondly, it is impossible to set up machinery of standard control for furnished rooms or apartments, since in many cases there was no pre-war rent to peg them to, and there is no criterion by which to judge the value of the amenities or services given in addition to the rooms—each case has to be separately assessed, and

trick. The defense got two more spades, but South then won the returned heart, led to the diamond A and then ran enough clubs for game.

At the second table, East had heard about knocking out of dummy the side entry for a long suit. So, after winning the lead with the spade A, he returned a diamond. But which diamond? The 8-spot. South got this with his Q, leaving the dummy's A intact, so he, too, was able to bring in enough clubs for game. That East had used mild medicine where radical surgery was demanded.

At the third table, the spade A trick was followed by the diamond K return. As a consequence, the A got forced out of dummy before operations began on the clubs—the one factor on which the contract depended. So South in that case was able to score only seven tricks—two each in clubs, hearts and diamonds, and one in spades—so was down two.

Tomorrow's Problem

At the press conference Admiral Byrd also said: "We had to violate flying rules to make that altitude. 15,000 feet, but it was necessary. If we had stayed within the prescribed altitude none of our planes ever would have gotten over the mountains into unexplored territory on any flight. You cannot get through those mountains and you have got to get high to get over them."

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ORGANISATION

In the memorandum that accompanies the Industrial Organisation Bill, introduced by Sir Stafford Cripps, it is stated that its purpose is to increase the efficiency and productivity of industries and enable them to "render better and more economical service to the community."

By those standards it must be judged. What the Bill provides is that any one of eight Ministers may by order set up a "development council" for any industry, and in cases where there is no development council may impose levies for scientific research, the promotion of export trade or the improvement of design. Development councils are to be appointed by the Minister making the order, and to consist of representatives of the employers, the workers, and of "independent members," with the chairman drawn from the independents and nominated by the Minister. To such councils may be assigned a wide range of functions, set out under 10 heads in a schedule. They embrace methods of production, management and the use of labour to market research and industrial psychology. To put it briefly, there is no phase in the working of an industry and the disposal of its products that may not be brought under review.

Not is any limit set to the activity of Ministers in setting up these development councils. The whole range of industry may, trade by trade, be brought under supervision, and in due course subjected to levies for financing the activities of the controlling council, the members of which are to be paid. Such remuneration and allowances as may be determined by the Board or Minister concerned. An immense and undefined field of patronage is thus given to the Minister at the expense of the industry. While the recent White Paper rightly insists upon the necessity of keeping down the costs of production if export trade is to be recovered and expanded, industry as a whole is required to be prepared to carry this further addition to its overheads. The argument advanced that efficiency will be promoted is left for proof, the extra financial burden to be shouldered requires no demonstration. In favour of the Government it has to be admitted that the working parties appointed by Sir Stafford Cripps have found numerous directions in which the organisation and equipment of industries could be improved. Posed by this Bill is the question whether such changes are best left to the men who have created successful businesses or require a vast new bureaucracy to supervise their work in its every detail. The Bill itself provides for a continuance of the state of forms that are today under the fire of criticism of the Tory Press. Returns are required covering "productive capacity, capital assets, staff, output, orders, sales, deliveries, stocks and costs." There is no aspect of the work of a firm that must not be revealed. In return the Government offers the prospect that grants may be made by Parliament to the Council of Industrial Design or other bodies for work that hitherto has been supported by the industries themselves. In its broad outline the Industrial Organisation Bill denies freedom for industry but contemplates planning on a national scale that might in the long run be beneficial. The question is whether at this particular moment of crisis in British economic history more immediate harm than good may not come of the notion that the State must have its finger in every pie.

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OLB

London, Feb. 18.

The marriage between Captain Peter Malland Longmore, Royal Artillery, and the Hon. Felicity Wavell will take place at New Delhi on Thursday.

Miss Wavell, the second daughter of Viscount Wavell, Viceroy of India, and Viscountess Wavell. The wedding reception will be held at the Viceroy's house, New Delhi.

Longmore is the younger son of Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur and Lady Longmore of Westworth, Surrey.—Associated Press.

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THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

NOTICE TO MEMBERS SECOND EXTRA RACE MEETING

Saturday, 22nd February 1947.

The first bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the first race will be run at 2.00 p.m.

Through numbers (8 Races—\$10) may be obtained at the Office of the Treasurer, 1st Floor, Exchange Building, also tickets for the Special Cash Sweep (\$2.00) on the last race.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE.
Members are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10.00 including tax are obtainable through the Secretary upon the written or personal introduction of a member, such member to be responsible for all chits, etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurer's Comptroller Office will close at 11 a.m. and the Secretary's Office at 11.45 a.m. Both Offices at 1st floor, Exchange Building.

A limited number of tickets will be obtainable at the Club House, provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Box (Tel. 27818).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$2, including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers, Tie Men, etc., will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Passes for Servants will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY on application to the Secretary, 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

Any persons found loitering with Servants' passes in their possession will forfeit the same and will be removed from the Enclosure.

By Order,

C. B. BROWN, Secretary

PALESTINE A UNO PROBLEM

Mr. Bevin Announces Britain's Decision

Arabs, Jews Were Irreconcilable

London, Feb. 18. Britain's decision to refer the Palestine question to the United Nations was announced in Parliament today by Mr. Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary. The breakdown of the Palestine talks, he said, was due to the irreconcilable attitude of both Arab and Jew and no solution was at present possible.

Other points he made were: 1. The British Government was convinced that no solution was possible along the lines of the 1939 White Paper (which restricts Jewish immigration); 2. As Britain was not empowered under the mandate to enforce an arbitrary decision on either party, the British Government had decided to refer the question to the United Nations; 3. The Government would submit to the United Nations detailed accounts of how the mandate has proved unworkable in practice and would submit all British, Arab and Jewish proposals hitherto tabled; 4. The British Government saw great difficulty in the United Nations considering the Palestine case before the Grand Assembly's next meeting in September.

Mr. Bevin emphasized that the latest British proposal contained a practicable promise of evolution towards independence.

This had, however, been rejected by both Arabs and Jews. Mr. Bevin said: "I am very sorry to have to inform the House that the conference with the Arabs and consultations with the Zionist organization about the future of Palestine which have been proceeding in London have come to an end because it has become clear there is no prospect of reaching by this means any settlement which would be even broadly acceptable to the two communities in Palestine."

"Ever since they took office the Government has laboured incessantly to find a solution to the Palestine problem. Most supporters of the Government believed that no solution was to be found along the lines of the White Paper of 1939 and the Government therefore addressed themselves at once to the task of devising a different approach on which it could negotiate with the parties concerned."

"In view of the keen interest shown by American Jewry in the aspirations of Zionism, it was thought desirable that the Government of the United States should be associated in this endeavour and, as a result, an Anglo-American committee of inquiry was appointed in November, 1945."

"At the same time, it was decided that Jewish immigration into Palestine should be temporarily continued at the rate of 15,000 a month, notwithstanding the limits set by the White Paper, and an additional 21,000 Jews have already been admitted since the White Paper, terminated—and since July 1945 29,000 have been admitted."

"When the report of the Anglo-American Committee was received we agreed with the United States Government that it should be examined by British and American officials. They jointly recommended a plan of provincial autonomy described in this House by Mr. Herbert Morrison on July 31."

"This plan gave the basis for negotiation with the parties concerned and no time was lost in inviting them to confer with us. Neither of the two communities in Palestine accepted this invitation but the conference with representatives of the Arab states was opened in London in September last year."

"After an adjournment due to the General Assembly of the United Nations, the conference was resumed in January and the Palestine Arabs then joined the discussions. The Jewish Agency have throughout refused to participate in the conference although informed that all proposals would be open for discussion, but it has been possible

London, Feb. 18.

in the last phase to have conversations on an informal basis with representatives of the Agency.

"From the outset, the Arabs and Jews declined to accept as a basis for discussion the provincial autonomy plan put forward by the British Government. The Arabs put forward alternative proposals under which Palestine would achieve early independence as a unitary state with a permanent Arab majority."

British Proposals

"The British Government, seeing no prospect of negotiating settlement on that basis put forward new proposals of their own. These envisaged the establishment of local areas, Arab and Jewish, with a substantial degree of autonomy within the unitary state, with a central Government in which both Arabs and Jews would share."

"These proposals provided that Jewish immigrants should be admitted over the next two years at the rate of 4,000 a month and thereafter the continuation and the rate of Jewish immigration should be determined with due regard to the economic absorptive capacity of the High Commissioner in consultation with his Advisory Council. In the event of disagreement, by an arbitration tribunal appointed by the United Nations."

"It was offered as the basis of discussion. These three solutions have already been made known in broad outline and we intend to lay before the House later in the week a White Paper, describing each of them in greater detail."

"The latest proposals of the British Government were rejected outright by both the Arab delegation and representatives of the Jewish Agency, even as a basis for discussion. I think it is important that the House should understand clearly the reasons which prompted the two sides to reject this solution."

Arab Views

"For the Arabs, the fundamental point is that Palestine should no longer be denied independence which has now been obtained by every other Arab state and that the acceptance of the accepted principles of democracy the elected majority should be free to determine the future destiny of the country."

"They regard further expansion of the Jewish National home as

OUSTED FOR KEEPS

New York, Feb. 18. The executive board of the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers today took drastic action in announcing the permanent ousting from the union of 10 of its Connecticut members who are a "pro-sectant" drive in a protest against the alleged Communist leanings of the union's international president, Ralph Robinson.

Calling the charge "Red-baiting," the board refused the vote of the right to be in Connecticut to accede from the union.—United Press.

judicializing the attainment of national independence by the Arabs of Palestine which all Arab states desire, and they are therefore unwilling to contemplate further Jewish immigration into Palestine. They are equally opposed to the creation of a Jewish state in any part of Palestine."

"The Jewish Agency, on the other hand, have made it clear that their fundamental aim is the creation of an independent Jewish state in Palestine. With this in view, their first proposal was that the British Government should continue to administer the mandate on a basis which would enable them to continue to expand the Jewish National home until such time as they obtained by immigration a numerical majority in Palestine and could demand the creation of an independent Jewish state over the country as a whole."

"When it was made clear that the British Government were unable to maintain the Palestine mandatory administration under the protection of which such a policy could be carried out, representatives of the Jewish Agency indicated that while still maintaining the justice of their claim they would be prepared to consider as a compromise a proposal for the creation of a viable Jewish state in the area of Palestine."

"While not themselves liable to propose a plan of partition, they were prepared to consider such a proposal if the British Government advanced it."

"Thus, the British Government has been faced with an irreconcilable conflict of principles. We do not intend ourselves, to recommend to the United Nations any particular solution. We regret that final settlement should be subject to the delay which is almost inevitable, particularly in view of the continuing strain on British administration and Services during a still further period. We trust, however that the question is to be referred to the United Nations; all concerned will exercise restraint until their judgment is known." (Cheers)

Mr. Churchill

Mr. Winston Churchill, leader of the Opposition, accused the Government of a "protracted delay." He asked if Mr. Bevin's statement did not mean that at least another year would pass while the British Government remained on its own confession, without any solution to the Palestine problem. Was that not excessive?—Reuter.

Danish Dakota Crashes

Copenhagen, Feb. 18. Frost-bitten and with face injuries, the British co-pilot of a Danish "Dakota" mail plane walked five kilometres in darkness over the frozen sea, to Malmoe on the Swedish coast, when his machine made a forced landing in fog last night.

Behind him was the burning plane, ablaze for two hours, with the British pilot with a broken leg and a Danish radio operator named Blomgren with a broken collarbone and head injuries huddled near it.

They were rescued by a Swedish ferry. Tonight the co-pilot and the other members of the crew were in Copenhagen hospital and reported "out of danger." It has not been possible to question them and therefore investigation into the forced landing will not be completed until tomorrow.—Reuter.

Strike

Prague, Feb. 18. Bad weather prevented aircraft leaving Prague airport today after the settlement last night of the strike by flying personnel of the Czechoslovak air lines, and regular traffic will be resumed tomorrow. The strike followed a DC-3 crash last week in which three persons were killed near Prague. The pilots demanded better servicing of aircraft.—Reuter.

Fire

Copenhagen, Feb. 18. Fifty planes ready for delivery abroad were destroyed during the night here in a fire which burned down Denmark's only aircraft factory "Scandinavian Aero Industry."—Reuter.

posing Britain to an unduly heavy burden in keeping 100,000 soldiers in Palestine and further depleting her financial resources by £30, or £40,000,000 a year? "If this policy was right today, why should it have not been announced 12 months ago?" Mr. Churchill asked.

Mr. Bevin retorted that the protracted delay was totally unjust. It would be fatal policy for Britain, with all the leadership she had shown in the world, to have yielded to the United Nations without attempting something.

Twelve months would not be a long delay if the problem of Jew and Arab could be settled in some way after 1,600 years of conflict.—Reuter.

Capetown's Royal Garden Party

Capetown, Feb. 18. Pre-war elegance marked today's Royal Garden party, attended by the King, Queen and the Princesses and 5,000 guests at the residence of the Governor-General of South Africa, Mr. Gideon Brand van Zyl, at Westbrooke, five miles outside Capetown.

Dresses were thin and summery, necklines low and hats of the prevailing style. White was the predominant colour. The Queen wore a simple cut white gown, with a full skirt and a hat trimmed with ostrich feather. Princess Elizabeth wore a white lace hat and a white gown and Princess Margaret a white hat with a white dress.

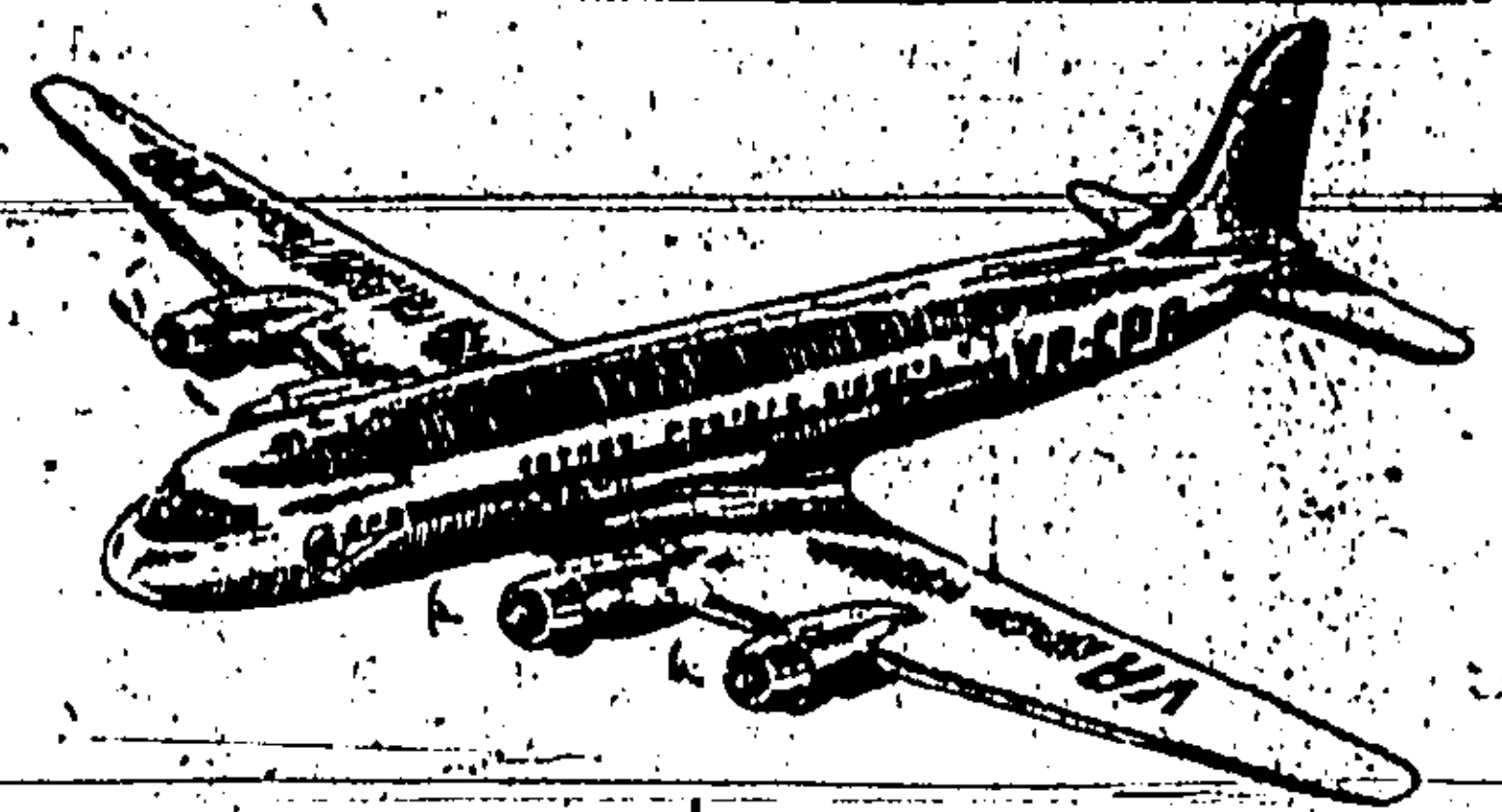
In the intense heat, against the lovely gardens filled with brilliantly coloured flowers, the Royal Family walked round with the Governor-General and General Jan Smuts, talking with the guests. Towering Devil's Peak formed the background.

Iced passion fruit, tea, cakes and sandwiches were served on the lawns. "When the Queen sat down to tea with the King and Princesses she opened a small Empire-style white parasol. Many other women present did likewise.—Reuter."

hour for Cecil Rhodes, the Empire builder, if he could have looked down on Capetown yesterday from his memorial on Table Mountain. If there are, any cracks in the bonds which link South Africa to the Commonwealth, none was visible."

Comparing the arrival with "the gloomy scenes at home in lap-bound, darkened, care-worn England" the newspaper said: "There, people ridden by hardship and grimly wrestling with troubles that seem almost insuperable so far off great segments of British influence and power—slipping irrevocably out of the imperial orbit. Egypt—gone. Palestine is struggling towards independence. India and Burma are going, but South Africa will stay."

"Britain's Socialist Government has joined forces with Premier Smuts to keep this key to the Continent firmly within the Commonwealth." Associated Press.



It cost LESS today to FLY-CPA.

BANGKOK
Leaving Friday 21st Feb. Fare \$528.
SINGAPORE
Leaving Friday, 21st Feb. Fare \$800.
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Leaving Thursday 20th Feb. Fare \$600.
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Book now for next aircraft Fare \$2,200.
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Leaving Manila, 20th Feb. Pacific Overseas Airlines

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4 oz. jars \$1.45 per jar

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QUEEN'S

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.
MORE THRILLING AND STARTLING THAN
"LEAVE HER TO HEAVEN!"

Here is a story every woman will understand
every man will wish he could!



SHOWING TO-DAY **KING'S** At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15, & 9.15 p.m.

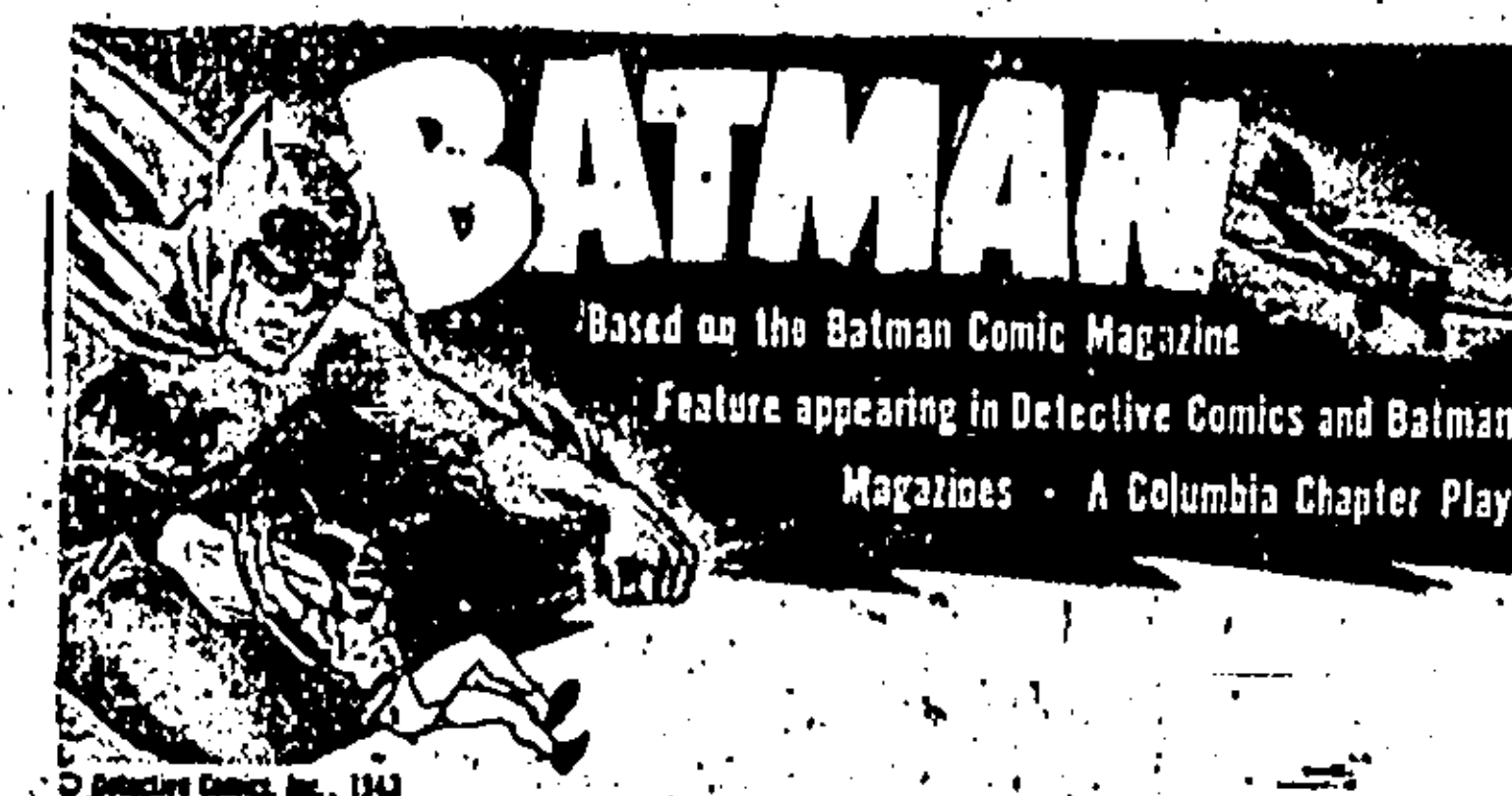
GIVING HER LIPS IN SURRENDER
CLOSING HER EYES ON TO-MORROW
ASKING NOTHING OF LOVE—BUT LOVE!



Also Latest Gaumont British News

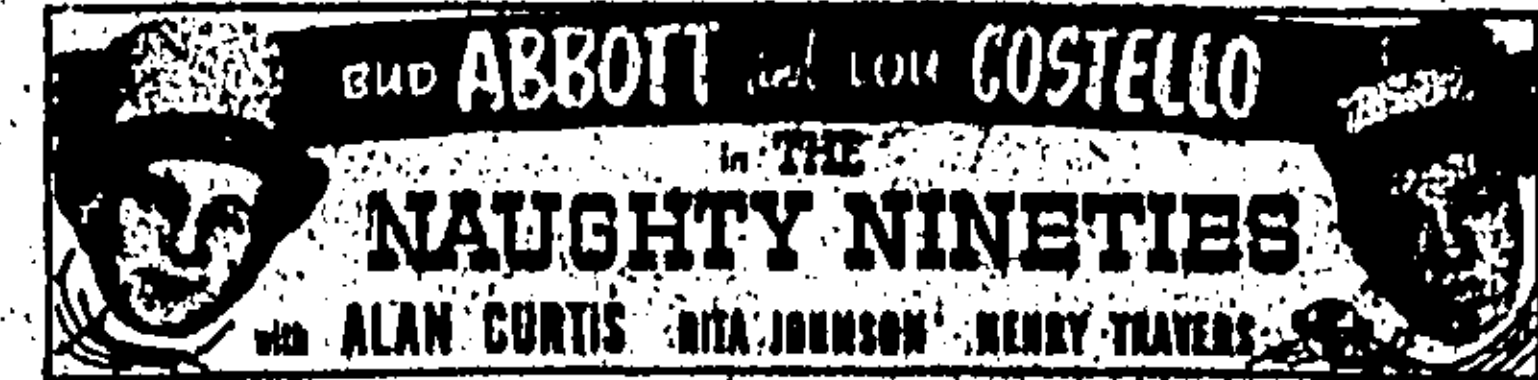
CENTRAL THEATRE

5 SHOWS DAILY
AT 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.
THE FINAL EPISODE



ORIENTAL

Final Showing To-Day At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
A SHOW BOAT LOAD OF LAUGHTERS!



Commencing To-morrow **"LAURA"**

CATHAY Grand Opening To-day
AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.
WHERE ADVENTURE LIVES AND
ROMANCE RULES!

Marie MONTEZ
Jon HALL
Turhan BEY in **"SUDAN"**

A UNIVERSAL TECHNICOLOR PICTURE

BRITAIN'S SLIM CANDY, MEAT RATIONS TO BE CUT?

London, Feb. 18.
Britons, already frustrated by coal shortages, electricity cuts and slender rations, were told tonight that their slim candy and meat rations may be cut still further.

The Food Minister, Mr. John Strachey, said at a press conference that the 100 per cent cut in electricity to industries in a wide belt of England had shut down candy factories. As a result, he said, the candy ration of 12 ounces per month to adults and one lb. a month to those under 18 probably would have to be reduced.

POST OFFICE NOTICES

Outward Mails

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Post close 30 minutes earlier than the time stated below.

THURSDAY, FEB. 20
Tientsin (Kowloon) 9 a.m.
Shanghai 10 a.m.
Beiping 10 a.m.
Hong Kong 10 a.m.
Macao, Tientsin and Shiki 10 a.m.
Kobe 10 a.m.
Canton (by Train) 4 p.m.
Airmail for Saigon, Singapore, Colombo, Sydney, Auckland and London, Rangoon, C.P.O. (closed) 2.30 p.m. (Ord.) 3 p.m.
C.P.O. (closed) 2.30 p.m. (Ord.) 3 p.m.
Airmail for Amoy, Shanghai, Hankow, Canton, Tientsin and Beiping (closed) 3 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 21
Airmail for Manila P.I. (closed) 9.30 a.m. (Ord.) 10 a.m.
Shanghai 10 a.m.
Beiping 10 a.m.
U.S.A., Central and South America and Canada, via San Francisco (Per. and Reg.) 2.30 p.m. (Ord.) 3 p.m.
U.S.A., Central and South America via San Francisco (Per. and Reg.) 2.30 p.m. (Ord.) 3 p.m.
Manila P.I. 3 p.m.
Amoy, Beiping and Saigon 3 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin and Shiki 3 p.m.
Canton (by Train) 4 p.m.
Airmail for Bangkok, Singapore, Colombo, Rangoon, Sydney and Auckland.

SATURDAY, FEB. 22
Shanghai and Hong Kong 10 a.m.
Beiping 10 a.m.
Shanghai Noon.
Bombay only (India) 3 p.m.
Australia via Sydney (Per. and Reg.) 2.30 p.m. (Ord.) 3 p.m.
U.S.A., Central and South America via San Francisco (Per. and Reg.) 2.30 p.m. (Ord.) 3 p.m.
Manila P.I. 3 p.m.
Amoy, Beiping and Saigon 3 p.m.
Macao, Tientsin and Shiki 3 p.m.
Canton (by Train) 4 p.m.
Airmail for Bangkok, Singapore, Colombo, Rangoon, Sydney and Auckland.

Mr. Strachey also warned that if Dominion stock stoppages continued, the meat ration would have to be reduced again. The present meat ration consists partly of corned beef.

The Food Ministry later announced that current ration coupons for soap, meat and other foods which shops could not honour because of shortages may be used in the next period, beginning March 2. Transport delays because of the freezing weather were believed responsible for the shortages.

Mr. Strachey's news was given one day before he was scheduled to leave for America and shortly before 10 Downing Street issued a statement that coal production had increased despite difficult conditions since the emergency power restrictions began eight days ago.

Attlee's Speech

The statement said Mr. Attlee would speak in the Commons on the situation and reported that more than 230,000 tons of coal had been saved since restrictions began.

The statement said coal deliveries to London by sea during the last three days had been 25 per cent above the daily average for the winter, but warned that severe weather conditions still would make the situation difficult.

It contained no indication when electricity restrictions would be lifted.—United Press.

(Reg.) 3 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.
Airmail for Hong Kong, Calcutta, Delhi, Johannesburg and Cairo (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.
Airmail for Saigon and London (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.
Airmail for Canton, Luchow and Kunming (Reg.) 3 p.m. (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 23
Canton 8.15 a.m.
Macao, Tientsin and Shiki 10 a.m.

"SUPREME RED" IN U.S.A.

Washington, Feb. 18.

Gerard Eiler, described as "supreme Communist authority in the United States," and "one of the most dangerous men ever to set foot on American soil," was today formally charged by the House of Representatives with contempt.

Eiler, who is of German origin, was arrested by the Department of Justice a fortnight ago. He was to have appeared as a witness before a House of Representatives Committee on Un-American Activities, but refused to be sworn and was taken to Ellis Island.—Reuter.

New York Exchanges

New York, Feb. 18.
American A/C Sterling 4.02 1/16, 4.03 1/16, 4.04 1/16, 4.05 1/16, 4.06 1/16, 4.07 1/16, 4.08 1/16, 4.09 1/16, 4.10 1/16, 4.11 1/16, 4.12 1/16, 4.13 1/16, 4.14 1/16, 4.15 1/16, 4.16 1/16, 4.17 1/16, 4.18 1/16, 4.19 1/16, 4.20 1/16, 4.21 1/16, 4.22 1/16, 4.23 1/16, 4.24 1/16, 4.25 1/16, 4.26 1/16, 4.27 1/16, 4.28 1/16, 4.29 1/16, 4.30 1/16, 4.31 1/16, 4.32 1/16, 4.33 1/16, 4.34 1/16, 4.35 1/16, 4.36 1/16, 4.37 1/16, 4.38 1/16, 4.39 1/16, 4.40 1/16, 4.41 1/16, 4.42 1/16, 4.43 1/16, 4.44 1/16, 4.45 1/16, 4.46 1/16, 4.47 1/16, 4.48 1/16, 4.49 1/16, 4.50 1/16, 4.51 1/16, 4.52 1/16, 4.53 1/16, 4.54 1/16, 4.55 1/16, 4.56 1/16, 4.57 1/16, 4.58 1/16, 4.59 1/16, 4.60 1/16, 4.61 1/16, 4.62 1/16, 4.63 1/16, 4.64 1/16, 4.65 1/16, 4.66 1/16, 4.67 1/16, 4.68 1/16, 4.69 1/16, 4.70 1/16, 4.71 1/16, 4.72 1/16, 4.73 1/16, 4.74 1/16, 4.75 1/16, 4.76 1/16, 4.77 1/16, 4.78 1/16, 4.79 1/16, 4.80 1/16, 4.81 1/16, 4.82 1/16, 4.83 1/16, 4.84 1/16, 4.85 1/16, 4.86 1/16, 4.87 1/16, 4.88 1/16, 4.89 1/16, 4.90 1/16, 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